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GLORIA MOLINA CONGRATULATES 'RISE UP READING!' BOOKMARK CONTEST WINNERS

Three Southeast San Gabriel Valley Girls Honored

LOS ANGELES (February 12, 2008)—Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina congratulated three southeast San Gabriel Valley girls at today's Board of Supervisors meeting for winning the county public library's "Rise Up Reading!" bookmark contest.

Traditionally, each of the five board members present certificates to the winners who reside in their respective supervisorial districts. Accordingly, Sup. Gloria Molina congratulated the following winners who best depicted this year's "Rise Up Reading!" theme:

Abilene Bravo, an 8th grader who reads at Sunkist Library in La Puente

Chelsea Jaco, a 4th grader who reads at La Puente Library in La Puente

Stephanie Varghese, a 2nd grader who reads at Norwalk Library in Norwalk

"This contest is one of my favorite county traditions," Sup. Gloria Molina said. "I am so proud of Abilene, Stephanie, and Chelsea for their creativity, for their healthy competitive spirit, and for representing the First District so well. Congratulations to all three of you!

"I also want to thank the county's Public Library staff for all their organizational, behind-the-scenes work that made this year's bookmark contest so fun and so successful," Sup. Gloria Molina continued. "It is because of activities like these that more L.A. County children are exploring our public libraries and reading."

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“As adults, we all know how essential reading, writing, analytical, and creative thinking skills are,” Sup. Gloria Molina concluded. “Yet it’s become a real challenge for parents and teachers to convince children that reading is worthwhile and fun. In this digital age, reading competes with video and PC games, television and movies—not to mention old-fashioned outdoor playing—for our children’s attention. This bookmark contest always gets more local children into our public libraries and interested in reading. That’s good news to us.”

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